



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5272**

February Session, 2022



**AN ACT CONCERNING MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 18-69e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 Correctional staff at York Correctional Institution shall, upon request,  
4 provide an inmate at the institution with [feminine hygiene] menstrual  
5 products as soon as practicable. Correctional staff shall provide such  
6 [feminine hygiene] menstrual products for free, [and] in a quantity that  
7 is appropriate to the health care needs of the inmate and, on and after  
8 September 1, 2022, in a manner that does not stigmatize any inmate  
9 seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by the  
10 Commissioner of Public Health under section 7 of this act. To carry out  
11 the provisions of this section, the Department of Correction may (1)  
12 accept donations of menstrual products and grants from any source for  
13 the purpose of purchasing such products, and (2) partner with a  
14 nonprofit or community-based organization. For purposes of this  
15 section, ["feminine hygiene products"] "menstrual products" means  
16 tampons and sanitary napkins.

17 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) On and after September 1, 2022,  
18 each local and regional board of education shall provide free menstrual

19 products, as defined in section 18-69e of the general statutes, as  
20 amended by this act, in restrooms that are accessible to students in each  
21 school under the jurisdiction of such boards and in a manner that does  
22 not stigmatize any student seeking such products, pursuant to  
23 guidelines established by the Commissioner of Public Health under  
24 section 7 of this act. To carry out the provisions of this section, the local  
25 and regional boards of education may (1) accept donations of menstrual  
26 products and grants from any source for the purpose of purchasing such  
27 products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit or community-based  
28 organization.

29       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) On and after September 1, 2022,  
30 each public institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173  
31 of the general statutes, shall provide free menstrual products, as defined  
32 in section 18-69e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, in no  
33 fewer than one designated and accessible central location on each  
34 campus of the institution and in a manner that does not stigmatize any  
35 student seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by  
36 the Department of Public Health under section 7 of this act. Each public  
37 institution of higher education shall post notice of such location on its  
38 Internet web site. To carry out the provisions of this section, each public  
39 institution of higher education may (1) accept donations of menstrual  
40 products and grants from any source for the purpose of purchasing such  
41 products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit or community-based  
42 organization.

43       Sec. 4. Section 8-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
44 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

45       (a) The Commissioner of Housing may, upon application of any  
46 public or private organization or agency, make grants, within available  
47 appropriations, to develop and maintain programs for homeless  
48 individuals including programs for emergency shelter services,  
49 transitional housing services, on-site social services for available  
50 permanent housing and for the prevention of homelessness.

51 (b) Each shelter receiving a grant pursuant to this section (1) shall  
52 provide decent, safe and sanitary shelter for residents of the shelter,  
53 including, but not limited to, through the provision, on and after  
54 September 1, 2022, of free menstrual products, as defined in section 18-  
55 69e, as amended by this act, in each restroom of such shelter that is  
56 accessible to its residents and in a manner that does not stigmatize any  
57 resident seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by  
58 the Commissioner of Public Health under section 7 of this act; (2) shall  
59 not suspend or expel a resident without good cause; (3) shall, in the case  
60 of a resident who is listed on the registry of sexual offenders maintained  
61 pursuant to chapter 969, provide verification of such person's residence  
62 at the shelter to a law enforcement officer upon the request of such  
63 officer; and (4) shall provide a grievance procedure by which residents  
64 can obtain review of grievances, including grievances concerning  
65 suspension or expulsion from the shelter. No shelter serving homeless  
66 families may admit a person who is listed on the registry of sexual  
67 offenders maintained pursuant to chapter 969. The Commissioner of  
68 Housing shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of  
69 chapter 54, establishing (A) minimum standards for shelter grievance  
70 procedures and rules concerning the suspension and expulsion of  
71 shelter residents, and (B) standards for the review and approval of the  
72 operating policies of shelters receiving a grant under this section. Shelter  
73 operating policies shall establish a procedure for the release of  
74 information concerning a resident who is listed on the registry of sexual  
75 offenders maintained pursuant to chapter 969 to a law enforcement  
76 officer in accordance with this subsection. To carry out the provisions of  
77 subdivision (1) of this subsection, each shelter may (i) accept donations  
78 of menstrual products and grants from any source for the purpose of  
79 purchasing such products, and (ii) partner with a nonprofit or  
80 community-based organization.

81 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) On and after September 1, 2022,  
82 each emergency shelter operated by a domestic violence agency, as  
83 defined in section 52-146k of the general statutes, shall provide free  
84 menstrual products, as defined in section 18-69e of the general statutes,

85 as amended by this act, in each restroom of the shelter that is accessible  
 86 to its residents and in a manner that does not stigmatize any resident  
 87 seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by the  
 88 Commissioner of Public Health under section 7 of this act. To carry out  
 89 the provisions of this section, each shelter may (1) accept donations of  
 90 menstrual products and grants from any source for the purpose of  
 91 purchasing such products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit or  
 92 community-based organization.

93 Sec. 6. Subdivision (122) of section 12-412 of the 2022 supplement to  
 94 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
 95 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

96 (122) Sales of [feminine hygiene] menstrual products.

97 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before July 1, 2022, the  
 98 Commissioner of Public Health shall establish guidelines regarding the  
 99 manner in which menstrual products may be provided pursuant to  
 100 section 8-359a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, section 18-  
 101 69e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sections 2, 3 and  
 102 5 of this act, without stigmatizing the person who requests such  
 103 products. The commissioner shall post such guidelines on the  
 104 Department of Public Health's Internet web site.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	18-69e
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	8-359a
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	12-412(122)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PH**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*